

Kmart centers to open Monday - Commercial Appeal, The (Memphis, TN) - June 1, 1995 - page DS1

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Super Kmart Centers are scheduled to open Monday in Southaven and Hickory Hill, following the Sunday closing of three smaller, older-style stores.

The Kmart at 560 State Line Road in Southaven is closing as a supercenter opens next door, while the stores at **6480 Winchester** and in Germantown are closing to make way for the Hickory Hill supercenter.

All the older stores will close Sunday, and the grand opening for the Southaven and Winchester stores is June 11. Both supercenters will be open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Southaven store manager Bob Long said the supercenter had to hire about 600 people in addition to all 150 employees from the old Kmart. And applications are still being taken Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Long said the old store will be demolished within 30 days and the space will become a parking lot.

"Parking is going to be really tight for the first six months," he said. "This is going to open up about 1,800 more spaces."

Although most of the space will be used for parking, there will be room for three shops, Long said.

The Southaven store is adjacent to the present Kmart site on the north side of State Line at Interstate 55 on a 22-acre site.

The supercenter concept is the new marketing strategy of Michigan-based Kmart, the nation's No. 2 retailer. The chain is trying to compete with Wal-Mart, which overtook Kmart to become the top discount chain.

The 178,000-square-foot Southaven Super Kmart Center will employ more than 750. With the opening of this store, Kmart will operate 26 stores in Mississippi, providing more than 3,695 jobs.

Negotiations are continuing with prospective tenants for the old Kmart location at **6480 Winchester**, but nothing is definite.

Hobby Lobby, an arts and crafts chain based in Oklahoma City, is expected to open this fall in the space of the Germantown Kmart at 1991 Exeter.

The Hickory Hill Super Kmart is on the north side of Winchester at Germantown Extended.

The Super Kmart Centers feature a wide range of services and goods under one roof. In addition to merchandise carried by older Kmart stores, the stores offer a grocery store, video rentals, eateries and other services.

The supercenters also offer features for disabled shoppers such as mechanical doors, motorized shopping carts and enlarged restrooms.

The Southaven Super Kmart Center will feature an international food court, which will offer a variety of breakfast, lunch, dinner and snack items.

CITATION (MLA STYLE)

Fair The Commercial Appeal Staff reporter Ron Maxey contributed to this story., Phyllis A.. "Kmart centers to open Monday." *The Commercial Appeal*, Final ed., sec. Neighbors, 1 June 1995, p. DS1. *NewsBank: America's News – Historical and Current*, infoweb.newsbank.com/apps/news/document-view? p=AMNEWS&docref=news/0EAF9504AE4FAFD4. Accessed 6 Sept. 2020.

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